

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated May 19, 2006. Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, and 10 are now presented for examination. Claims 1, 2, 7, and 8 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention. Claims 5 and 6 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The Office Action rejected Claims 1, 2 and 4-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. In particular, the Office Action asserts that the specification does not teach an illuminant and frame comprised of glass.

Without conceding the propriety of this rejection, “illuminant” has been removed from the claims and thus the issue with respect to that word is believed to be moot.

As for the frame comprised of glass, the Examiner is respectfully referred to page 13, lines 7-18 of the specification, which reads as follows:

A method of forming the In film 93 on the supporting frame 86 that is adhered to the rear plate 81 is described with reference to Figs. 16A and 16B. First, the supporting frame 86 is warmed to a temperature high enough to raise the wettability of molten In and is kept in this state. 100°C or higher temperature will do. Since the silver paste films as the underlayers 204 have high glass adhesion but are porous films with a lot of pores, it is preferable to impregnate the underlayers 204 thoroughly with molten In, thereby preventing vacuum leakage.

As one skilled in the art would understand in view of the foregoing paragraph (particularly the phrase indicating that the silver paste is highly adhesive to

glass, the frame is made of glass. In addition, as described at page 2, lines 9-21 of the specification, it is conventionally known to manufacture an envelope by placing a seal member between glass members to seal bond the glasses.

For the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that a frame comprised of glass is supported by the specification as originally filed as would be understood by one skilled in the art, and thus withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 5 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0192935 (*Joshi et al.*) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0201462 (*Pommer et al.*). Claims 2, 6, and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over, *Joshi et al.* in view of *Pommer et al.* Claims 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Joshi et al.* and *Pommer et al.*

Without conceding the propriety of the rejection of Claims 5 and 6, cancellation of those claims renders their rejection moot.

Also, without conceding the propriety of the rejection of Claim 1, that claim has been amended to even further clarify the claimed subject matter. As amended, the claim is directed to an image display device, comprising an envelope whose inside is maintained in a reduced pressure atmosphere. The envelope comprises a first substrate made of glass, a second substrate opposed to the first substrate, and a frame made of glass interposed between the first substrate and the second substrate. The frame has an encompassing

shape. The envelope also comprises a metal film whose shape is the encompassing shape. A low melting point metal is positioned at a part of a face of the first substrate opposite the frame, and the low melting point metal is positioned between the first substrate and the frame and along the encompassing shape. The melting point metal is brought into contact with the first substrate and the metal film so as to make seal bonding of the first substrate and the frame (by, e.g., bonding a substrate and a frame together and sealing them).

By virtue of these features, a structure for a display device is provided which can substantially maintain its airtightness while being substantially unbreakable.

It is believed that Claim 1 is clearly patentable over Joshi et al. for the following reasons.

Joshi et al. discloses that the conductive region 12 on the semiconductor substrate 10 and the conductive column 30 (or 31) are connected using the solder joint 35. PbSn and InSb are disclosed as materials of the solder joint 35 (paragraph [0029]), and a metal such as aluminum, copper, nickel or gold is disclosed as a material of the conductive region 12 (paragraph [0019]). In addition, Joshi et al. discloses the structure with a part of the conductive region 12 being covered with the passivation layer 14 (Fig.1(i)). As materials of the passivation layer 14, there are disclosed silicon nitride, glass and polyimide which are different from the material of the conductive region 12. However, as described at paragraph [0003] of Joshi et al., only the connecting structure is used to make better the conductive connection between a semiconductor die and a carrier.

It is respectfully submitted that nothing has been found, or pointed out, in Joshi et al. that would teach or suggest a frame having an encompassing shape, much less a low

melting point metal which is positioned along the encompassing shape and makes seal bonding of the first substrate and the frame, as set forth in Claim 1. Accordingly, Claim 1 is believed to be clearly patentable over Joshi et al.

Independent Claim 2 recites in part:

“a metal film whose shape is the encompassing shape; and a low melting point metal which is positioned at a part of a face of the frame opposite to the first substrate, wherein the low melting point metal is positioned between the first substrate and the frame and along the encompassing shape and wherein the melting point metal is brought into contact with the first substrate and the metal film so as to make seal bonding of the first substrate and the frame.”

For substantially the same reasons as those set forth above, it is respectfully Joshi et al. does not teach or suggest those features, and that Claim 2 is therefore clearly patentable over Joshi et al.

The Office Action cites Pommer as teaching a glass substrate formed because of its high transparency. However, nothing has been found, or pointed out, in Pommer that would teach or suggest the above-quoted features of Claim 2. Accordingly, Claim 2 is believed to be clearly patentable over Joshi et al. and Pommer, whether considered separately or in combination.

A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicants' opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as references against the independent claims herein. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

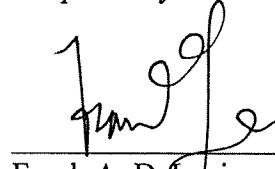
The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same

reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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